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INVENTORY OF THE TOWN, VILLAGE AND CITYARCHIVES OF VERMONTTOWN OF SALEM1781-1830No 10a

Supplement to  
No. 10, Orleans County  
VOL. VII, TOWN OF DERBY

Prepared by

THE VERMONT HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY  
Division of Community Service Programs  
Work Projects Administration

Montpelier, Vermont  
Vermont Historical Records Survey  
April 1941





**INVENTORY**  
**OF THE**  
**TOWN, VILLAGE and CITY**  
**ARCHIVES**  
**OF**  
**VERMONT**



**No. 10, Orleans County**  
**Vol. 7, Town of Derby**

Supplement - Town of Salem, (1781-1880)

THE HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY  
MONTPELIER, VERMONT

1941



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## FOREWORD

The Inventory of the Town, Village and City Archives of Vermont is one of a number of guides to historical materials prepared throughout the United States by workers on Historical Records Survey projects of the Work Projects Administration. The inventory of the archives of the towns of Orleans County is number 10 of the Vermont series. The publication herewith presented, Town of Salem, is a supplement to Vol. VII, Town of Derby of the Orleans County series.

The Historical Records Survey program was undertaken in the winter of 1935-36 for the purpose of providing useful employment to needy unemployed historians, lawyers, teachers, and research and clerical workers. In carrying out this objective, the project was organized to compile inventories of historical materials, particularly the unpublished government documents and records which are basic in the administration of local government, and which provide invaluable data for students of political, economic, and social history. Up to the present time approximately 1,300 publications have been issued throughout the country. The archival guide herewith presented is intended to meet the requirements of day-to-day administration by the officials of the town, and also the needs of lawyers, businessmen, and other citizens who require facts from the public records for the proper conduct of their affairs. The volume is so designed that it can be used by the historian in his research in unprinted sources in the same way he uses the library card catalog for printed sources.

The inventories produced by Historical Records Survey projects attempt to do more than give merely a list of records - they attempt further to sketch in the historical background of the town or other unit of government, and to describe precisely and in detail the organization and functions of the governmental agencies whose records they list. The county, town, and other local inventories for the entire country will, when completed, constitute an encyclopedia of local government as well as a bibliography of local archives.

The successful conclusion of the work of Historical Records Survey projects, even in a single town, would not be possible without the support of public officials, historical and legal specialists, and many other groups in the community. Their cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.

The Survey program was organized by Luther H. Evans in January 1936 and has been directed by Sargent B. Child since March 1, 1940. It operates as a Nation-wide series of locally sponsored projects in the Division of Community Service Programs, of which Mrs. Florence Kerr, Assistant Commissioner, is in charge.

HOWARD O. HUNTER  
Commissioner





## PREFACE

This inventory of the town records of Salem is one volume in a series bearing the title Inventory of the Town, Village and City Archives of Vermont. It is anticipated that eventually in similar series will be listed the records of every governmental unit in the State. Copies of this volume and of every publication of the Vermont Historical Records Survey are distributed to prominent libraries of the nation and to the larger and more centrally located libraries of Vermont. A limited number of copies are available for free distribution to other institutions and individuals, upon receipt of a written request at the Survey office in Montpelier.

The prime purpose of this series is to provide an inventory of records, and the historical sketch furnishes a background for the records. The brief description of the various town offices are included for the same reason. These latter will eventually be supplemented by a key volume entitled "Town Government in Vermont" which will treat each office in detail. Already much of the ground work for such a key volume has been completed. For purposes of compression and easy reference the records are described in entries the style of which is formalized to give in each case the following information: Title of record; dates for which available; quantity and labeling of volumes or containers; variant titles; description of record contents; manner of arrangement; indexing; nature of recording; size of volumes or containers; and location. Cross references are inserted where they would appear helpful, and the index has been carefully prepared.

The program for this work is sponsored by the Vermont Public Records Commission and conducted by the Vermont Historical Records Survey. This Survey operates under the auspices of the Division of Community Service Programs of the Work Projects Administration. This particular inventory has been prepared under the direction of Gerald Pryor, supervisor of the town records unit of the Vermont Historical Records Survey. George E. Hyde prepared the historical sketch and took general charge of production. The field research was done by Angela Pinardi, and the chief burden of the editing was borne by Martha Parsons.

From the sponsoring commission and other public officials and private citizens the Survey has received hearty and helpful cooperation. Particularly to be noted among those assisting with both technical advice and financial support are the State of Vermont, the educational institutions of the State, and the Vermont Historical Society. These Vermont friends have provided the funds to meet the cost of rent, heat, light, paper, and other necessary non-labor items. Labor funds have been furnished by the Work Projects Administration.

The Survey appreciates the various forms of assistance which have made this work possible and hopes that as time goes on the intrinsic value of the work itself and the quality of its accomplishment may more and more justify the support which it has received.

Henry Howard Eddy  
State Supervisor  
Historical Records Survey



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# ABBREVIATIONS, SYMBOLS, AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

## Abbreviations

alph.	. . . . .	alphabetical(ly)
approx.	. . . . .	approximately
arr.	. . . . .	arranged, arrangement
aver.	. . . . .	average
ch.	. . . . .	chapter
chron.	. . . . .	chronological(ly)
co.	. . . . .	company
ed.	. . . . .	editor
<u>et al.</u>	. . . . .	<u>et alii</u> , <u>et aliae</u> (and others)
etc.	. . . . .	et cetera (and so forth)
<u>et seq.</u>	. . . . .	<u>et sequentes</u> , <u>et sequentia</u> (and the following)
hdw.	. . . . .	handwritten
<u>ibid.</u>	. . . . .	<u>ibidem</u> (in the same place)
No(s).	. . . . .	number(s)
<u>op. cit.</u>	. . . . .	<u>opere citato</u> (in the work cited)
p., pp.	. . . . .	page(s)
pub.	. . . . .	published
sec(s).	. . . . .	section(s)
viz	. . . . .	videlicet (namely)
vol(s).	. . . . .	volume(s)
Vt.	. . . . .	Vermont, Vermont Reports

## Symbols

--	. . . . .	to date
x	. . . . .	by (in dimension items)
'	. . . . .	feet (following numerals)
"	. . . . .	inches (following numerals)
:	. . . . .	equivalent to
%	. . . . .	percent
***	. . . . .	denotes omission in quoted matter

## Explanatory Notes

Titles of Records. Titles are shown exactly as found on volumes, file drawers, boxes, bundles, or other containers. The current or most recent title of a series is used as the exact title of the entry. Variations to the entry title are listed in the title line. An exact title appears in upper case. An assigned title, which appears only when the record has no exact title, is written in upper case and enclosed in parentheses. An explanatory title which is used in conjunction with an exact title when the title is vague or misleading, appears in lower case and is enclosed in parentheses.

The same theory is applied to subentries, which are designated by letters within an entry. A subentry will never have an exact title, but when it bears a title cross reference to some other entry in the inventory, it appears under the title of the entry to which it is cross-referenced whether that title is actual or assigned. If the title of the entry to which a subentry is title cross-referenced is exact, it appears





## Abbreviations, Symbols, and Explanatory Notes

with initial letters in upper case; if it is assigned, it appears with the initial letters in upper case and is enclosed in parentheses. For subentries which are not title cross-referenced, we have used the title by which the record is commonly known in Vermont.

Dates of Records. The dates that appear directly after the title are the earliest and latest dates found within the record. Dates shown in the body of the entry or following subentries are the dates of that particular item; where dates are not given for individual items the dates of that item are identical with those in the title line.

Quantity. The exact number of volumes, boxes, file drawers, or other containers is shown in each entry.

Labeling of Records. Letters or numbers placed in parentheses directly following the quantity indicate the exact labeling. If no labeling is indicated, it may be assumed that there is none.

Description of Records. The titles themselves partially describe the records. Following the title line, such descriptive details are given as might guide the reader to more particular information.

Indexes. Where an entry is served by a separate index, a separate entry covering the index is given immediately following the record. Where an index covers more than one entry, it is given immediately following the last entry that it serves and cross references are made between the index entry and the entries it serves.

Condition of Records. Unless otherwise noted in the inventory records are in good condition.

Dimensions. Dimensions of volumes are given in order of height, width, and thickness; dimensions of file boxes and drawers in order of height, width, and depth. All dimensions are given in inches, unless otherwise specified, and the symbol for inches is omitted.

Location of Records. The general location of the records at the time the inventory was completed is given in the essay on Housing, Care, and Accessibility of the Records which will be found immediately preceding the first entry of the inventory. Exceptions are specifically noted in the individual entries.

Cross References. In the case of records diversely located but actually related and members of the same series, cross references have been freely used to show the fundamental relationship. Where material definitely related to a given series occurs in a miscellaneous book, the material is listed in the body of the entry with a cross reference to the series under whose title it would logically belong. Where material is missing from a series where it would naturally occur but is located elsewhere in a miscellaneous volume, a cross reference in the title line of the series makes clear its location. To call attention to records which are related but not definitely part of the same series a special cross



Abbreviations, Symbols,  
and Explanatory Notes

reference is set up as a third paragraph of the entries concerned. The carefully prepared index makes clear a variety of interrelationships and renders the use of more extensive cross references unnecessary.





## HISTORICAL SKETCH

The town of Salem in Orleans County was bounded on the north by Derby, on the east by Navy (now Charleston), on the south by Brownington and Coventry, and on the west by Duncansboro (now Newport). Navy is the only neighboring town mentioned in defining the boundaries of Salem in its charter since it was not believed at the time the charter was issued that there were any other grants which might conflict with it. The area as provided in the grant was "six miles square." When a survey of the grant was made, it was found that a large part of the area was under Lake Memphremagog. The land is fertile and suited to intensive cultivation but the terraine is too broken to permit the use of motorized machinery.<sup>1</sup> The River Clyde flowed through the town and Salem Pond, a considerable body of water, is located in the northeastern part of town.

A tract marked as No. 43 was shown on the map prepared by the surveyor general for the land committee of the General Assembly. This tract was granted to Josiah Gates, Amos Jones, and others to the number of 120 and was to be known as Gatesborough. The grant was approved on November 1, 1780 but the granting fees were not paid and the charter was not issued.<sup>2</sup> The grant was then made to Col. Jacob Davis and 64 others as Salem and the charter issued on August 18, 1781.<sup>3</sup> A survey of this region in 1785 showed that the charters of Salem and Derby were incompatible and that the territory in conflict amounted to 5,710 acres.<sup>4</sup> The Assembly had antedated the Derby charter so that this grant took precedence over Salem. A refund of the granting fees on the land cut off by Derby was approved by the Assembly.<sup>5</sup>

The first meeting of the proprietors of Salem was held in Greensboro, Vt., in 1794. Timothy Hinman, prominent in the settlement of Derby, was chosen proprietors' clerk of Salem. A committee was appointed to make the division into lots and it was voted to encourage settlement by allowing the first six settlers to pitch their lots instead of securing them by draft. Subsequent meetings of the proprietors were held in Derby.<sup>6</sup> The first division lots were for 100 acres and were drawn in 1796.<sup>7</sup> The second division lots contained 50 acres each and were drawn in August 1807. The third and final draft of 25 acres to each lot was made in September of the same year.<sup>8</sup>

Ephraim Blake was the first settler in Salem. He arrived in 1798 and built a house near the center of the town where he later ran a tav-

- 
1. Land Classification Map, University of Vermont Extension Service.
  2. Records of the Council of Safety and Governor and Council of the State of Vermont, II, 54, 501.
  3. Charters Granted by the State of Vermont, pp. 180, 181.
  4. Surveyors General's Papers, Office of the Secretary of State, XLI, 62.
  5. Laws of Vermont, 1799, p. 119.
  6. Record of Charter and Proprietors Records, pp. 14-21, see entry 2.
  7. Ibid., pp. 27-33.
  8. Ibid., pp. 62-70.





## Historical Sketch

ern.<sup>1</sup> Settlement was slow there being only three heads of families in town in 1800. They were Ephraim Blake, Bradford Paddock, and Archelaus Woodman. There were 3 persons in the Blake family, 5 in the Paddock family, and 8 in the Woodman family.<sup>2</sup> By 1820 there were only 80 inhabitants.<sup>3</sup> The first town meeting was held on April 30, 1822 at Blake's Tavern. Noyes Hopkinson was elected moderator and treasurer, Samuel Blake town clerk, and Ephraim Blake, Josiah Lyon, and Nathaniel Cobb selectmen.<sup>4</sup> The first town clerk served for 30 years.<sup>5</sup> Ephraim Blake was the first representative to be elected, serving in 1827.<sup>6</sup>

A society was organized in 1798 called the Christian Band Society. It was the purpose of the organization to secure religious services for the town.<sup>7</sup> No minister, however, was ever settled and no church building ever erected in the town. Rev. John Wilson started a Methodist class in 1839 and he continued in charge until 1850. The congregation was not satisfied with him and severed connections. He became a Free Will Baptist and preached to a group of this sect from 1855 to 1866. The Salem Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1853.<sup>8</sup> This society languished and an effort was made in 1855 and 1856 to organize a Wesleyan Methodist group. The Seventh Day Adventists also gained some foothold in the town about this time but were unable to make a permanent organization. A Roman Catholic mission existed in Salem from 1868 to 1879. This was served from Canada at first but later from the Newport church. The group registered articles of association in 1870 as the Roman Catholic Christian Society.<sup>9</sup>

Noyes Hopkinson was chosen a committee to take care of the school lands of the town at its first town meeting in 1822.<sup>10</sup> The town was divided into three school districts the following year.<sup>11</sup> The number of districts was increased as population required. When the town was annexed to Derby in 1880 there were seven schools in the same number of districts with an enrollment of 174.<sup>12</sup> The act of annexation provided that the inhabitants of Salem should have full participation in an endowment known as the Wetherbee fund which had been left to Derby.<sup>13</sup> The town never had a school for secondary instruction.

- 
1. Zadock Thompson, History of Vermont, part III, p. 157.
  2. Heads of Families at the Second Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1800, Vermont, p. 103.
  3. Thompson, op. cit., part II, p. 210.
  4. Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, vol. 1, pp. 5, 6, see entry 4.
  5. Ibid., passim.
  6. Journal of the General Assembly, 1827, p. 5.
  7. Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, vol. 2, p. 264.
  8. Ibid., p. 124.
  9. Ibid., p. 268.
  10. Ibid., vol. 1, pp. 5, 6.
  11. Ibid., p. 16.
  12. State Superintendent of Education, Twenty-sixth Vermont School Report, 1880, p. 54.
  13. Laws of Vermont, 1880, No. 224.



The proprietors voted a tax of one penny an acre in 1796 for roads and bridges and in 1797 reserved six acres from each 100-acre lot in the first division for highways.<sup>1</sup> Timothy Hinman, who was proprietors' clerk for Salem, had cut a road through Salem from Greensboro to Derby in 1795 and the tax was to reimburse him for his costs.<sup>2</sup> Hinman also opened a road from Derby to Stratford, N. H., which passed south of Salem pond<sup>3</sup> along the line of present State Route 105.<sup>4</sup> Three highway surveyors were elected at the first town meeting in 1822.<sup>5</sup> Salem was a farming community and no industries ever developed there.

That part of Salem which lay to the west of Lake Memphremagog was virtually inaccessible to the remainder of the grant and the proprietors voted in 1798 to send a petition to the Assembly to have it annexed to Duncansborough.<sup>6</sup> The Assembly refused to take action on the petition at this time since both tracts were uninhabited and unorganized and the matter merely one of convenience to the grantees. In 1816, the inhabitants of Duncansborough secured passage of an act changing the name of that town to Newport and annexing to it parts of Coventry and Salem which were west of Lake Memphremagog.<sup>7</sup> This part of Salem later became the site of the present City of Newport.

A special town meeting was held in 1824 at which a committee of four was chosen to buy a plot for a burial ground.<sup>8</sup> This was located near the center of the town. Two other cemeteries were established, one in the western part of town and one east of Salem Pond.<sup>9</sup>

Town meetings were held at private residences until 1849 when it was voted to hold them in the schoolhouse in District No. 5, which was in the south part of town.<sup>10</sup> The town poor were cared for by direct relief throughout the life of the town. The overseer of poor was authorized by vote of the town in 1838 to enter into negotiations with neighboring towns with a view to the establishment of a joint poor farm but the project did not materialize.<sup>11</sup>

A joint petition from voters of Derby and Salem asking for an annexation of Salem to Derby was presented to the house of representatives on November 4, 1880. The petition was signed by William Spaulding and

- 
1. Record of Charter and Proprietors Records, pp. 27-34, see entry 2.
  2. Norman W. Brigham, Sketch of the Life of Timothy Hinman, p. 19.
  3. Ibid., p. 20.
  4. Highway Map of the State of Vermont, 1940.
  5. Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, vol. 1, pp. 5, 6, see entry 4.
  6. Record of Charter and Proprietors Records, p. 41.
  7. Laws of Vermont, 1816, ch. CXXI.
  8. Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, vol. 1, p. 19.
  9. Atlas of the Counties of Lamoille and Orleans, Vermont, F. W. Beers et al.
  10. Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, vols. 1, 2, passim.
  11. Ibid.





## Historical Sketch

245 others from Derby and by Hubbard Joslyn and 112 others from Salem. Theophilus Grout, representative from Newport was asked to present the petition.<sup>1</sup> The petition was approved.<sup>2</sup> The voters of both towns met before March meeting the following year and voted to accept the annexation. These meetings were warned by the town clerks instead of the selectmen in accord with the provisions of the act.<sup>3</sup> With the recording of the action of the towns, Salem ceased to exist as a separate town. The records of Salem were deposited with the town clerk of Derby.

The population of Salem during census years was as follows: 1800: 16; 1810:58; 1820:80; 1830:230; 1840:299; 1850:455; 1860:594; 1870:693; 1880:581.<sup>4</sup>

- 
1. House Journal, 1880, p. 124.
  2. Laws of Vermont, 1880, No. 224.
  3. Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, vol. 3, p. 39, see entry 4.
  4. Hamilton Child, Gazetteer and Business Directory of Lamoille and Orleans Counties, Vt., p. 16.





MAP AND BOUNDARY CHANGES



### BOUNDARY CHANGES

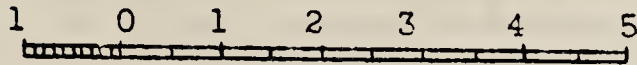
The map on the next page shows the interference between the grants of Salem and Derby marked as I. That part of Salem which was annexed to Newport in 1816 is marked II.<sup>1</sup>

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1. Laws of Vermont, 1816, ch. 121.

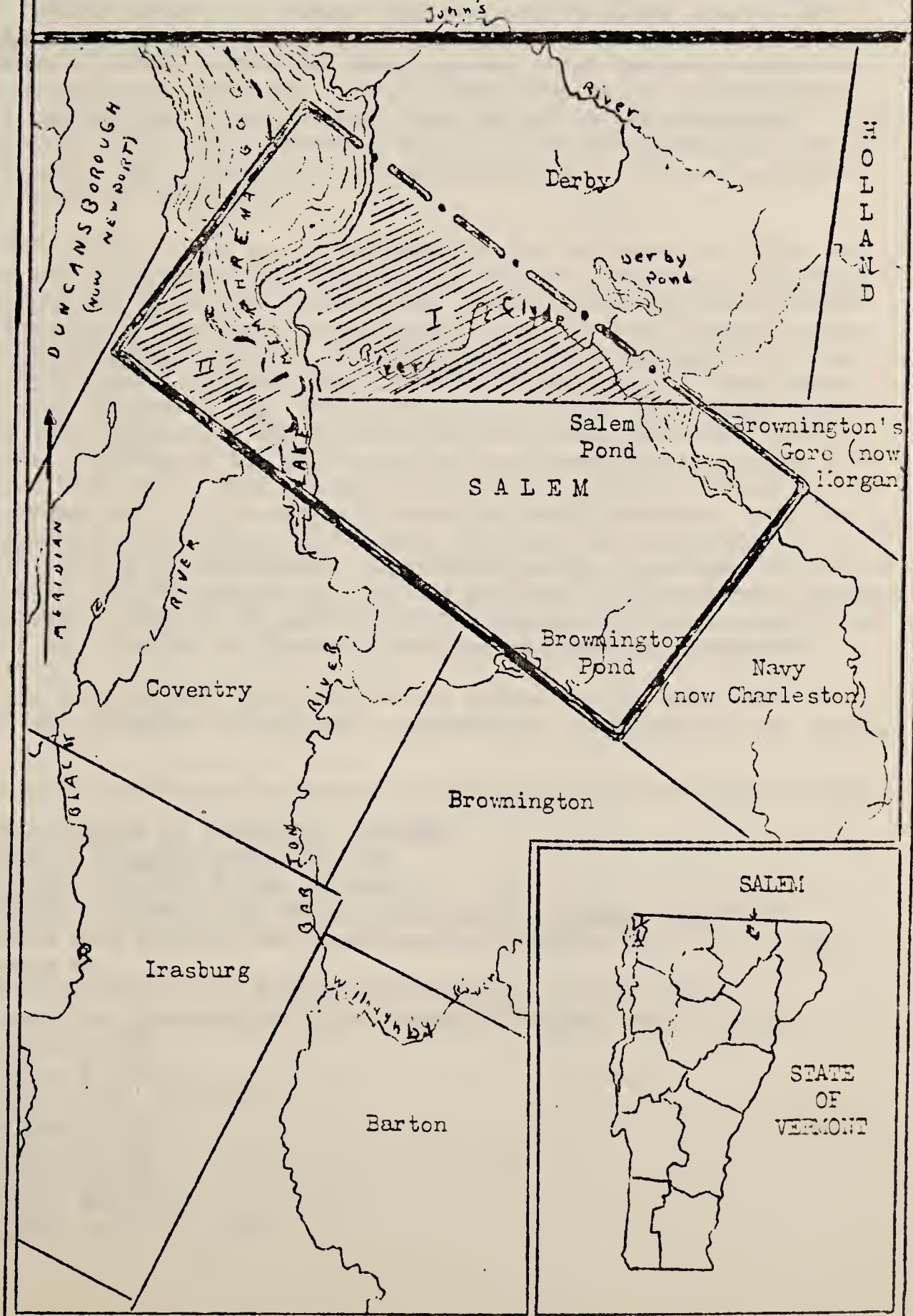


TOWN OF SALEM 1781 - 1880



Scale of Miles

C A N A D A



SALEM

STATE  
OF  
VERMONT





## GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

The charter to the town of Salem was issued on August 18, 1781 by the Governor of the State of Vermont pursuant to a grant approved by the General Assembly in 1780.<sup>1</sup> The town was annexed to Derby in 1880 the records passing to the custody of the town clerk of Derby.<sup>2</sup>

The procedure under the Vermont statutes called for an organization of the proprietors: "to choose a moderator, clerk, and treasurer, and \* \* \* further proceed to transact any business which may concern the propriety; as, the promoting of settlement, and laying out and making divisions of lands, laying out roads and any other business whatsoever, which concerns the propriety \* \* \*." Every proprietor was allowed to vote in proportion to the interest which he had in the propriety.<sup>3</sup> This organization had no administrative authority but often exercised temporary powers. The proprietors of Salem organized in 1794 and completed their functions in 1808.<sup>4</sup>

Many difficulties were encountered in the settlement of Salem and it was not until April 30, 1822 that the town was organized. Officers elected at the first town meeting were a moderator, town clerk, selectmen, treasurer, constable, tax collector, grand jurors, listers, highway surveyors, fence viewers, poundkeeper, sealer of weights and measures, tythingmen, hog constables, and school committee.<sup>5</sup> These elections were pursuant to the Constitution of 1793 and the statutes regulating town officers.<sup>6</sup> The officers who were added after 1822 were: haywards, superceding the hog constables, and committees to settle with the town officers in 1823;<sup>7</sup> sealer of leather in 1826;<sup>8</sup> trustees of surplus revenue in 1836;<sup>9</sup> overseer of poor in 1838;<sup>10</sup> auditors, superceding committees to settle with the town officers, and town agent in 1841;<sup>11</sup> school superintendent, superceding school committees in 1847;<sup>12</sup> sextons in 1850;<sup>13</sup> surveyor of wood and shingles in 1870;<sup>14</sup> and assistant town clerk in 1878.<sup>15</sup> In addition to the regular officers, special committees were elected for special functions as temporarily required.

All town officers took the oath of office and the town clerk recorded all elections of officers, appointments, resignations, and oaths,

- 
1. State Papers of Vermont, I, 389-391.
  2. Laws of Vermont, 1880, No. 224.
  3. Ibid., 1824, ch. C, No. 1, sec. 1.
  4. Record of Charter and Proprietors Records, passim, see entry 2.
  5. Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, vol. 1, p. 5, see entry 4.
  6. William Slade, Jr., Vermont State Papers, pp. 357, 358.
  7. Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, vol. 1, p. 11.
  8. Ibid., p. 31.
  9. Ibid., p. 151.
  10. Ibid., vol. 2, p. 5.
  11. Ibid., p. 21.
  12. Ibid., p. 58.
  13. Ibid., p. 82.
  14. Ibid., p. 220.
  15. Ibid., vol. 3, p. 26.





## Governmental Organization

except his own oath which was recorded by the county clerk. The selectmen made appointments to fill vacancies until such time as a special or annual town meeting was held. The duties of town officers and boards were much as their title indicated: the overseer of poor administered relief to the town poor; highway surveyors supervised affairs connected with roads; the auditors audited the accounts of the town officers who handled town money, etc.

The justices of the peace had an administrative as well as a judicial function. They were members of the board of civil authority together with the selectmen. They were also members of the board for abatement of taxes. The justices of the peace were elected by the General Assembly until 1850. After that date they were elected by the freemen at the freemen's meetings, the ballots being canvassed by the joint houses of the legislature and their commissions issued by the Governor.

The school district was set up by the State for the proper education of youth.<sup>1</sup> The towns were charged with the duty of fixing and altering the geographic limits of the district and of determining their number.<sup>2</sup> Salem was divided into school districts in 1823.<sup>3</sup> Commissioners were elected for the districts. They had power to sue and be sued. The school district was in a large measure self-governing within the limits prescribed for it.<sup>4</sup> An act of 1870 empowered the towns to abolish the district system if they so desired. Salem did not do so.

In Vermont the town is the principal unit of government. Among other things, it can sue and be sued; levy and collect taxes; take care of the poor; build and repair roads and bridges; purchase supplies; and license dogs. In reality, the Vermont towns are small democracies which transact most of their business in annual town meetings. A person was not admitted to vote at such meetings until he had been legally qualified and had obtained the approbation of the board of civil authority of the town in which he resided.

"Every male citizen of the age of 21 years, whose list shall have been taken in any town or city at the annual assessment next preceding any town or city meeting, and all citizens whose polls are exempt from taxation in consequence of their having arrived at the age of 70 years, or who may be exempt from taxation by the listers on account of poverty, or by reason of any special law exempting them, shall, during their residence in such town or city, be legal voters in town meetings."<sup>5</sup>

- 
1. Town of Barre as School Dist. v. School Dist. No. 13 in Barre, 67 Vt. 108.
  2. Statutes of the State of Vermont, 1787, pp. 136-138.
  3. Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, vol. 1, p. 16, see entry 4.
  4. Laws of Vermont, revised in 1787, ch. LIV.
  5. General Statutes of Vermont, 1870, p. 1036.





## Governmental Organization

Those who could vote at general elections were: "Every male citizen, of 21 years and upward, who shall have resided within this state one whole year next preceding any election of governor, lieutenant-governor, treasurer of the state, senators, representatives to congress, electors of president and vice-president of the United States, and shall be of quiet and peaceable demeanor, shall have a right to vote at such election."<sup>1</sup>

At its hearings, the board of civil authority might administer the freeman's oath to a person who would be entitled to vote at such election. The form of oath is as follows: "You solemnly swear (or affirm) that whenever you give your vote or suffrage, touching any matter that concerns the State of Vermont, you will do so as in your conscience you shall judge will most conduce to the best good of the same, as established by the Constitution, without fear or favor of any person."<sup>2</sup>

Salem was organized under the Constitution of 1793 and the statutes emanating from it. Some offices ceased to function as changing conditions rendered their functions obsolete and others were added as the need for them arose. Yet, there was no major change in the Salem governmental organization during the 60 years of its duration.

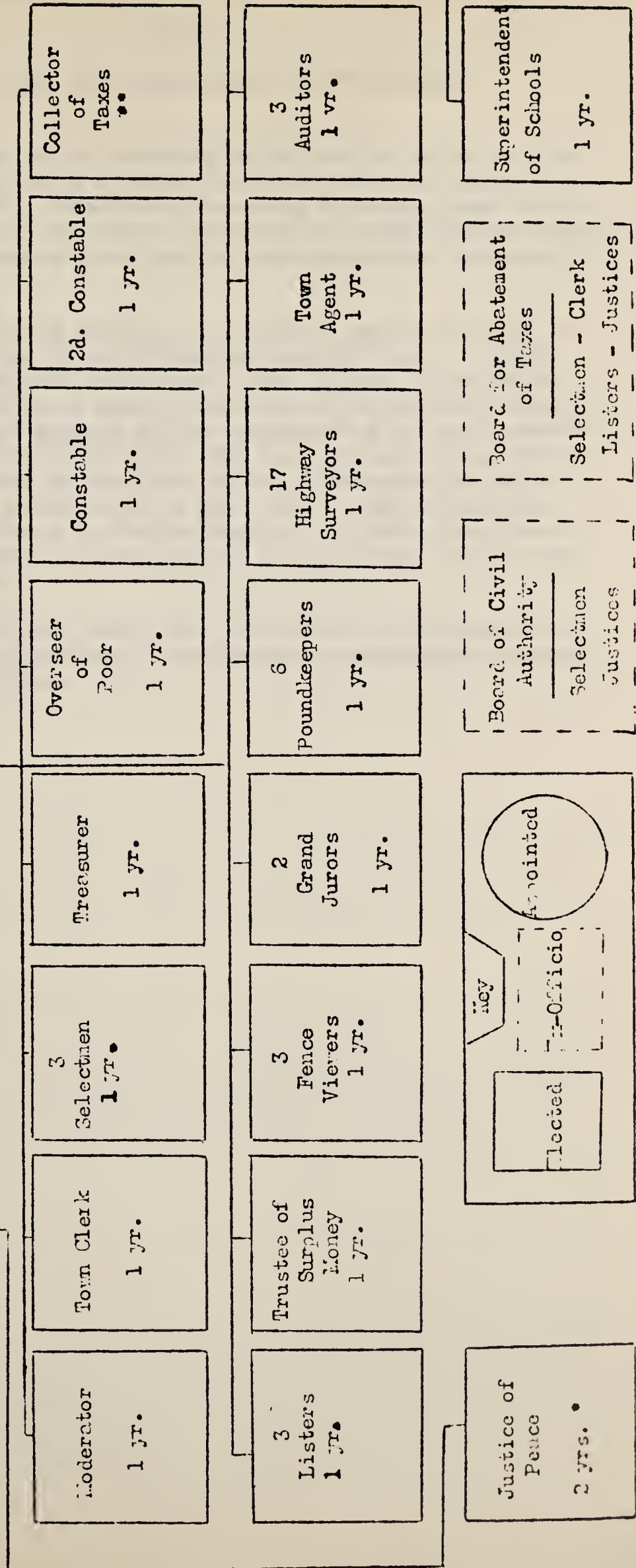
- 
1. General Statutes of Vermont, 1870, ch. I, sec. 1.
  2. Constitution of the State of Vermont, 1793, sec. 34.



# DIAGRAM OF SALEM TOWN GOVERNMENT - 1880

## GENERAL ELECTION

## ANNUAL TOWN MEETING



\* Listers are town officers only. Members of Board of Civil Authority and Board for Abatement of Taxes.

\*\* First Constable elected as tax collector.





## HOUSING, CARE, AND ACCESSIBILITY OF THE RECORDS

All of the records in the inventory of the town of Salem were kept at the town clerk's residence in Salem until the time that Salem was annexed to Derby in 1880. After the annexation the records were moved to Derby and deposited in the town clerk's office, except for the school registers which are located in a large safe in the Academy Building in Derby Village.

The Derby town clerk's office is a one story, wooden building located at the southern end of Main Street in Derby Village. A sign "Town Clerk" is conspicuously displayed on the building. The office consists of three rooms and a vault. The main office measures approximately 12' x 12' x 8'; a private office measures 6' x 12' x 8'; and the inner office measures 12' x 18' x 8'. The vault, measuring approximately 8' x 10' x 8', is back of the inner office. There are two safes, measuring  $5\frac{1}{2}'$  x  $4\frac{1}{2}'$  x 3' and  $3\frac{2}{3}'$  x  $2\frac{1}{4}'$  x  $2\frac{1}{4}'$ , in the main office. The Newport Fire Department is 4 miles away, and 2 chemical engines in Derby Village and a hand fire extinguisher in the office furnish additional fire protection.

The records are in good condition. The office is well heated and lighted, and adequately furnished. The office is open Monday through Saturday from 9-12 and 1-5.





## I. TOWN CLERK

One town clerk was elected at the annual town meeting held April 30, 1822 for a term of one year.<sup>1</sup> During the years 1823-30 a town clerk was elected annually for a similar term.<sup>2</sup> One assistant clerk was appointed in 1878.<sup>3</sup> The town clerk was a member of the board for abatement of taxes.<sup>4</sup>

### Governmental

1. (CHARTER OF SALEM, RECORD OF), 1781. In Record of Charter and Proprietors Records, entry 2-a; also in vols. 1, 2 of Land (and Miscellaneous) Records, entry 5-b.

Record of charter granted by State of Vermont to proprietors by name, defining boundaries, conditions of grant, setting off public lands, name of signer-governor, and attest of secretary.

2. RECORD OF CHARTER AND PROPRIETORS RECORDS, 1794-1808. 1 vol. 1794 duplicated in vol. 1 of Land (and Miscellaneous) Records, entry 5-f.

Proprietors' meetings, minutes of, showing place, date, and time meeting held; election of officers; business transacted; and attest of proprietors' clerk. Adjournment, showing time and place next meeting to be held, and clerk's attest.

Also contains:

- a. (Charter of Salem, Record of), 1781, entry 1.
- b. Division of land and original names of proprietors, 1807, showing three divisions of lots, lot and division number, original names of proprietors, boundaries and size of each lot.
- c. Officers' oaths, 1794, showing date oath was taken, name of officer taking oath, office held, and clerk's attest.

Chron. entry. No index. Hdw. 150 pp.  $7\frac{3}{4}$  x  $6\frac{1}{4}$  x 1. In vault.

3. PLAN OF SALEM, 1871. 1 map.

Plan of Salem, showing original lotting with lot numbers as drawn from first through third division, number of acres in each lot, names of bordering towns, list of original proprietors, their lot and division number. Information written on map, showing date Salem was chartered, number of grantees, public rights, statement of annexation of portion of town to Derby and Newport, date of allotment. Charles Cummings. Hand-drawn. 18 x 24. 1":20 chains. Poor condition. In safe in front office.

4. SALEM TOWN (Meeting and Miscellaneous) RECORDS, 1798, 1803-81. 3 vols. (1-3)

- 
1. Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, vol. 1, p. 5, see entry 4.
  2. Ibid., vols. 1-3, passim.
  3. Ibid., vol. 3, p. 26.
  4. Laws of Vermont, 1860, No. 23.





(4)

Town Clerk - Governmental

Record of warnings and minutes of annual and special town meetings, 1822-81. Warnings show place, date, and time meeting to be held; purpose of meeting; names of signers-selectmen. Minutes show date and place of meeting, officers elected and other business transacted, occasionally reports of officers, date recorded, and clerk's attest.

Also contains miscellaneous recorded items, viz:

- a. Adoption records, 1869-70, 1875, showing date and place of record, name and occasionally age of child adopted, name given to child, names and residence of persons adopting child, names of signers-principals and witnesses, acknowledgment before justice of peace or Master in Chancery, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vol. 2. Indexed by type of contents.
- b. (Birth Records), scattered dates 1803-73, entry 7. Indexed by type of contents. For separate index, see entry 12.
- c. Check lists, 1822-26, 1828-52, showing list of persons voting, date of list, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vols. 1, 2.
- d. (Death Records), 1830-31, 1835-38, 1840, entry 9. Indexed by type of contents. For separate index, see entry 12.
- e. Earmarks for cattle, 1823, 1837, 1842, showing names of owners, description of mark, occasionally date recorded, and clerk's attest; vols. 1, 2. Indexed by type of contents.
- f. Estrays, 1833-37, showing description of stray; date of trespass; request to prove ownership, pay charges, and remove; names of signers-subscribers; date recorded; and clerk's attest; vol. 1. Indexed by type of contents.
- g. Fence viewers' decisions, 1865, 1872-75, showing date of decision, names of disputants, location of fence, line to be kept by each, names of signers-fence viewers, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vols. 2, 3.
- h. Found articles, 1833, showing place and date articles found, names of articles, request to owner to claim, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vol. 1.
- i. Freeman's oath, list of persons taking, scattered dates 1823-81, showing name of person taking oath, date oath taken, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vols. 1-3.
- j. Freemen's meetings, 1822-57, 1860, 1863-70, 1872-80: Record of warnings and minutes of Freemen's meetings for the election of county, State, and Federal officers. Warnings, 1822-57, 1860, 1863, 1872-80, show date, place, and time meeting to be held; purpose of meeting; date of warning; name of signer-constable; and clerk's attest. Minutes, 1822-57, 1860, 1863-70, 1872-80, show place, date, and time meeting held; purpose of meeting; list of candidates and tabulation of ballots; date recorded; and clerk's attest; vols. 1-3. Indexed by type of contents.
- k. Innkeeper's license, 1851, showing name and address of licensee, conditions and term of license, place of business, names of signers-selectmen, and date recorded; vol. 2. Indexed by type of contents.
- l. Land (and Miscellaneous) Records, 1840, 1873, entry 5. Indexed alph. by first letter of surname of grantor-grantee.
- m. Listers' oaths, 1875, 1878-80, showing place and date oath taken, copy of oath, and names of signers-listers; vol. 3.





Town Clerk - Property Titles

(5)

- n. (Marriage Records), 1817, 1838-40, scattered dates 1841-66, entry 8. Indexed by type of contents. For separate index, see entry 11.
  - o. Organization of First Christian Band Society, Wesleyan Methodist Society, and the Salem Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1798, 1852-53, 1870, showing name of society, description and purpose of association, articles of constitution, names of members, place and date of meeting, occasionally officers chosen, name of signer-secretary, and town clerk's attest; vol. 2. Indexed by type of contents.
  - p. Petition for meeting, 1823, showing date of petition, names of persons to whom addressed, and purpose of meeting, names of signers-freeholders, acknowledgment, and date recorded; vol. 1. Indexed by type of contents.
  - q. Road surveys, scattered dates 1822-75: Petitions, showing names of persons to whom addressed, date and reason for petition, names of signers-petitioners; survey, showing description of boundaries, date of survey, name and location of road, names of signers-selectmen and surveyors, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vols. 1-3. Indexed by type of contents.
  - r. Roads discontinued, 1830, 1854, 1866, showing date and reason discontinued, description of road, names of signers-selectmen and surveyor, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vols. 1, 2. Indexed by type of contents.
  - s. School census, 1829, 1840-54, 1856, showing number of school district; location of school; names, ages, and number of pupils; length of time school has kept; and clerk's attest; vols. 1, 2. Indexed by type of contents.
  - t. School money, division of, 1848, 1850, 1869-70, 1873-76, 1878-81, showing date of division, number of school district, amount of money divided among districts, and names of signers-selectmen; vols. 2, 3. Indexed by type of contents.
  - u. Teachers' licenses, 1846-47, 1850, 1857-58, 1863, showing date and place license issued, name and qualifications of teacher, term of license, name(s) of signer(s)-superintendent(s) of school(s), date recorded, and clerk's attest; vol. 2.
- Vols. 1, 2, 1798, 1803-75, no systematic arr.; vol. 3, 1868, 1872-81, chron. entry. Town meeting records in vols. 1, 2, 1798, 1803-75, indexed by type of contents; miscellaneous records indexed as shown in subentries; vol. 3, 1868, 1872-81, no index. Edw. 170-369 pp. 8 x 7 x 1 to 13 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ . In vault.

Property Titles

- 5. LAND (and Miscellaneous) RECORDS, 1781, 1794, 1806, 1820-81. 6 vols. (1-6). Title varies: Records, 1781, 1806, 1838-53, 1858-80, vols. 2, 4, 5; Record, 1851-59, vol. 3. 1840, 1873 in vol. 2 of Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, entry 4-1.

Land records: 1794, 1806, 1820-81, deeds, mortgages, assignments, indentures, and other instruments affecting transfer of title of real estate, showing names and addresses of principals, consideration,





(5)

Town Clerk - Property Titles

description of property, conditions and date of instrument, recital of title, names of signers-principals and witness, acknowledgment, date recorded, clerk's attest, and occasionally marginal notation discharging instruments. Records in Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records show only name(s) of principal(s), condition and consideration, name(s) of signer(s)-principal(s), and occasionally clerk's attest.

Also contains miscellaneous recorded items, viz:

- a. Attachments on real estate and personal property, 1818-38, 1842, 1861-65, 1875-79, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, date of writ, place and date of court, place and time of appearance, amount of damages claimed. Officer's return, showing place and date of service of writ, description of property attached, certification of service and copy of writ, name of signer-constable or sheriff, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vols. 1, 2, 4, 5.
- b. (Charter of Salem, Record of), 1781, entry 1.
- c. Executions, record of, 1825, 1853, showing names and addresses of plaintiff and defendant; name, title, and location of court; date judgment rendered; amount of damages and costs; instructions to serving officer; final date of return of execution to court; name of signer-deputy sheriff. Officer's return of service of writ, showing names of defendants and plaintiffs, place and date service made, description of property levied on and sold, accounting of proceeds of sale, names of appraisers, amount of appraised valuation, date of appraisal, date of return, name of signer-serving officer, date recorded, and clerk's attest; vol. 1.
- d. Land taxes and vendues, 1822, 1825, 1828-29: Notice to collector, showing name, title, and residence of collector; powers and duties assigned to collector; place and date of notice; name of signer-issuing officer; occasionally oath of collector. Collector's notice of assessment of tax, showing place and date assessed, amount and purpose of tax, place and time vendue to be held, name of signer-collector, name and date of volume and number of paper in which notice published, and clerk's attest. Record of sale, showing date, place, and occasionally time of sale; amount of tax; names of proprietors; division and occasionally lot number; name of purchaser; attest of committee and collector or name of signer-collector; occasionally shows quantity sold; sum for which sold; number of acres redeemed; sum for which redeemed; date tax assessed; and clerk's attest. Vendue deeds, 1829, showing names of principals, consideration, description of property, date and condition of deed, names of signers-collector and witnesses, acknowledgment, date and time recorded, and clerk's attest; vols. 1, 2.
- e. Mechanic's liens, 1867-78, showing name of creditor and debtor, description of property, bill due, date of lien, names of signers-creditor(s) and witnesses, time received, place recorded, and clerk's attest; vol. 5.
- f. Record of Charter and Proprietors Records, 1794, entry 2.

Chron. entry. Vols. 1, 2, 1781, 1794, 1806, 1820-53, no index; vol. 3, 1851-59, indexed alph. by first letter of surname of grantor-grantee,



grantee-grantor; also separate index, see entry 6. Miscellaneous records indexed only as shown in subentries. Vols. 1-5, 1781, 1794, 1806, 1820-80, hdw.; vol. 6, 1875, 1879-81, hdw. on printed forms. Vols. 1-5, condition fair. 250-594 pp. 13 x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 17 x 12 x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ . In vault.

6. GENERAL INDEX (to Land Records), 1781, 1794, 1806, 1820-31. 1 vol.

Index to instruments affecting land ownership in vols. 1-6 of Land (and Miscellaneous) Records, entry 5, showing names of principals, and volume and page reference. Entered alph. by first letter of surname of grantor-grantee, grantee-grantor, and chron. thereunder. Hdw. under printed headings. 352 pp. 16 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 11 x 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ . In vault.

Vital Statistics

7. (BIRTH RECORDS), scattered dates 1803-73. In vols. 1, 2 of Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, entry 4-b. Record of births, showing date and place of birth, name of child, names of parents, and number of children in each family.

8. (MARRIAGE RECORDS), 1817, 1838-40, scattered dates 1841-66. In vols. 1, 2 of Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, entry 4-n.

Record of marriages, showing date and place of marriage, name of performing official, names and residences of bride and groom, and attest of justice of peace.

9. (DEATH RECORDS), 1830-31, 1835-38, 1840. In vol. 1 of Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, entry 4-d.

Record of deaths, showing date and place of death; name, sex, and age of deceased; occasionally names of parents.

10. REGISTRY OF BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS, 1867-81. 1 vol. (1). Contains:

- a. Birth records, 1867-80, showing date and place of birth; name, sex, and condition of child; names, residences, and birthplaces of parents; number of record; and occupation of father.
- b. Death records, 1867-80, showing number of record; date and place of death; name, age, sex, and birthplace of deceased; disease or cause of death; occupation if male over 15 years of age; names and birthplaces of parents of deceased.
- c. Marriage records, showing number of record; date of marriage; name, age, birthplace, residence, and number of marriage of bride and groom; names of parents of bride and groom; occupation of groom; name and title of performing official.

Chron. entry. For separate index to marriages, see entry 11; to births and deaths, see entry 12. Hdw. 200 pp. 16 x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 1. In vault.

11. (INDEX OF MARRIAGE RECORDS), 1817-81. In Index of Marriage Records, see Derby inventory, entry 28-i.

Index serving marriages in Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, entry 4-n, and in Registry of Births, Marriages and Deaths, entry





(12-13)

Selectmen; Listers

10-c, showing names of groom and bride, volume and page reference. Entered alph. by first letter of surname of groom-bride, bride-groom, and chron. thereunder.

12. (INDEX OF BIRTH AND DEATH RECORDS), 1803-80. In Index of Birth and Death Records, see Derby inventory, entry 31-i. Index serving births in Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, entry 4-b, and Registry of Births, Marriages and Deaths, entry 10-a; and serving deaths in Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, entry 4-d, and Registry of Births, Marriages and Deaths, entry 10-b; showing name of child or deceased, volume and page reference. Entered alph. by first letter of surname of child or deceased, and chron. thereunder.

## II. SELECTMEN

Three selectmen were elected at the annual town meeting held April 30, 1822 for terms of one year.<sup>1</sup> During the years 1823-80 three selectmen were elected annually,<sup>2</sup> except for 1826 when four such officers were elected.<sup>3</sup> The selectmen were members of the board of civil authority,<sup>4</sup> and board for abatement of taxes.<sup>5</sup> This office kept no records.

## III. LISTERS

Three listers were elected at the town meeting held April 30, 1822 for terms of one year.<sup>6</sup> During the years 1823-80 three listers were elected annually,<sup>7</sup> except for 1832 when five were elected,<sup>8</sup> and 1841 and 1877 when four listers were elected.<sup>9</sup> The listers were members of the board for abatement of taxes.<sup>10</sup>

13. GRAND LIST - QUADRENNIAL VALUATION - FOR THE TOWN OF SALEM, 1860, 1865, 1870, 1874, 1878. 5 vols. Title varies: Quintennial Valuation for Salem, 1860, 1 vol.; Quinquennial Valuation for the Grand List for the town of Salem, 1865, 1870, 2 vols.

Periodical real estate appraisals, showing name of taxpayer; number and amount of polls; description, amount, and valuation of real and personal property; deductions; amount for town and school district; amount for state and state school taxes; amount for county tax; school district number; remarks; oath of listers. 1865, 1870, 1874, 1878 adds number of

- 
1. Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, vol. 1, p. 5, see entry 4.
  2. Ibid., vols. 1-3, passim.
  3. Ibid., vol. 1, p. 31.
  4. Revised Statutes of Vermont, 1839, ch. 13, sec. 49.
  5. Laws of Vermont, 1860, No. 23.
  6. Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, vol. 1, p. 5.
  7. Ibid., vols. 1-3, passim.
  8. Ibid., vol. 1, p. 91.
  9. Ibid., vol. 2, p. 21; vol. 3, p. 21.
  10. Laws of Vermont, 1860, No. 23.



Treasurer; Trustees of  
Surplus Money; Auditors

(14-15)

dogs and tax. 1878 also adds list of sequestered lands for public, pious, charitable, and other uses. Entered alph. by first letter of surname of taxpayer. No index. Hdw. under printed headings. Aver. 20 pp.  $16 \times 10\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{4}$ . In vault.

14. GRAND LIST FOR THE TOWN OF SALEM, 1844, 1846, 1848-49, 1851, 1853-80. 33 vols. Title varies: Salem Grand List, 1844, 1846, 1848, 3 vols.

Showing name of taxpayer; number and amount of polls; number of dogs and amount of tax on dogs; description and valuation of real estate and personal property; deductions; total grand list; amount for town, school district, county, and state taxes; remarks; lister's oath. Entered alph. by first letter of surname of taxpayer. No index. Hdw. under printed headings. 25 pp.  $13 \times 8 \times \frac{1}{4}$  to  $15\frac{1}{2} \times 10 \times \frac{1}{4}$ . In vault.

#### IV. TREASURER

A treasurer was elected at the town meeting held April 30, 1822 for a term of one year.<sup>1</sup> During the years 1823-80 a treasurer was elected annually for a similar term.<sup>2</sup>

15. SALEM TREASURERS RECORDS, 1845-81. 4 vols. (1-4).

Record of itemized receipts and disbursements. Receipts show date, purpose, and amount of receipt; name of payer; occasionally total receipts. Disbursements show date, purpose, and amount of expenditure; name of payee; occasionally total amount of disbursements. Chron. entry. No index. Hdw. 85-145 pp.  $7\frac{3}{4} \times 6\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{2}$  to  $14 \times 8\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2}$ . In vault.

#### V. TRUSTEES OF SURPLUS MONEY

Three trustees of surplus revenue were elected at a special town meeting held December 27, 1836 to serve until the annual meeting of 1838.<sup>3</sup> Three trustees of surplus funds were elected in 1838-42 and 1846-48;<sup>4</sup> one in 1843-45, 1849-52, 1854-71, and 1873;<sup>5</sup> and two were elected in 1872.<sup>6</sup> After 1873 this officer was called trustee of surplus money. One such officer was elected in 1874-75 and 1877-80,<sup>7</sup> and two were elected in 1876.<sup>8</sup> This office kept no records.

#### VI. AUDITORS

The forerunners of the auditors were committees, usually consist-

- 
1. Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, vol. 1, p. 5, see entry 4.
  2. Ibid., vols. 1-3, passim.
  3. Ibid., vol. 1, p. 151.
  4. Ibid., vol. 2, passim.
  5. Ibid.
  6. Ibid., p. 229.
  7. Ibid., vol. 3, passim.
  8. Ibid., p. 7.







Tax Collector; Board for  
Abatement of Taxes; Board  
of Civil Authority

ing of three members, elected to settle the accounts of various town officers. In 1823 a committee consisting of two members was elected to settle with the treasurer.<sup>1</sup> Such a committee consisting of from one to three members was elected in 1824-40.<sup>2</sup> In 1823 a committee consisting of two members was elected to settle with the overseer of poor.<sup>3</sup> Such a committee consisting of from one to three members was elected in 1824-25 and 1828-40.<sup>4</sup> Auditors were first mentioned in 1836 when one such officer was elected for a term of one year.<sup>5</sup> Three auditors were elected for one year terms in 1841-67, 1869, and 1871-80,<sup>6</sup> and two were elected in 1868.<sup>7</sup> This office kept no records.

#### VII. TAX COLLECTOR

One tax collector was elected for a term of one year at the first meeting held April 30, 1822.<sup>8</sup> This procedure was followed during the years 1823-54, 1856-57, 1860-63, 1865, 1867-68.<sup>9</sup> The first constable acted as tax collector during the years 1864, 1866, and 1871-80.<sup>10</sup> This office kept no records.

#### VIII. BOARD FOR ABATEMENT OF TAXES

The board for abatement of taxes, consisting of the selectmen, town clerk, listers, and justices of the peace, was created by an act of the legislature in 1860.<sup>11</sup> During the years 1839-60 the duties of this officer were performed by the board of civil authority.<sup>12</sup> Prior to 1839 the justices of the peace and selectmen meeting with two or more listers abated taxes.<sup>13</sup> This office kept no records.

#### IX. BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY

The board of civil authority, consisting of the selectmen and justices of the peace, was constituted by an act of the legislature in 1839.<sup>14</sup> Prior to 1839 the duties were performed by the selectmen and

- 
1. Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, vol. 1, p. 11, see entry 4.
  2. Ibid., vols. 1, 2, passim.
  3. Ibid., vol. 1, p. 11.
  4. Ibid., vols. 1, 2, passim.
  5. Ibid., vol. 1, p. 129.
  6. Ibid., vols. 2, 3, passim.
  7. Ibid., vol. 2, p. 210.
  8. Ibid., vol. 1, p. 5.
  9. Ibid., vols. 1, 2, passim.
  10. Ibid., vols. 2, 3, passim.
  11. Laws of Vermont, 1860, No. 23.
  12. Revised Statutes of Vermont, 1839, ch. 13, sec. 49.
  13. Statutes of the State of Vermont, 1787, pp. 151, 152.
  14. Revised Statutes of Vermont, 1839, ch. 13, sec. 49.



School Superintendent;  
Highway Surveyors; Over-  
seer of Poor

(16)

justices of the peace but no specific name was given to the office.<sup>1</sup>  
Prior to 1860 this board acted as the board for abatement of taxes.<sup>2</sup>  
This office kept no records.

#### X. SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

During the years 1822-24 a committee consisting of from one to five members was elected to take charge of the school lands.<sup>3</sup> During the years 1825-26, 1828-33, and 1846 committees consisting of from one to five members were elected annually.<sup>4</sup> One superintendent of common schools was elected annually during the years 1847-80.<sup>5</sup> No mention is made of this officer for the years not shown above. This office kept no records.

16. VERMONT SCHOOL REGISTER, 1860-82. 46 vols.  
Questionnaire of teacher; list of pupils; visitors' register; daily attendance, showing name and age of pupil, grade, number of days of attendance and absence, times tardy, times dismissed; list of transfers, and non-resident pupils. Entered alph. by first letter of surname of pupil for attendance records; no obvious arr. to remainder of vol. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 10 pp.  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 9 \times 1\frac{1}{8}$ . In safe at Academy office.

#### XI. HIGHWAY SURVEYORS

Three highway surveyors were elected for one year terms at the town meeting held April 30, 1822.<sup>6</sup> From three to nineteen highway surveyors were elected for one year terms in 1823-80.<sup>7</sup> This office kept no records.

#### XII. OVERSEER OF POOR

One superintendent of poor was elected for a one year term at the annual meeting held March 13, 1838.<sup>8</sup> In 1839-41 two overseers of poor were elected.<sup>9</sup> One overseer was elected annually from 1842-48, 1850-55, and 1858-80.<sup>10</sup> In 1857 the office of overseer was given to the

- 
1. Statutes of the State of Vermont, 1787, pp. 151, 152.
  2. Ibid.
  3. Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, vol. 1, pp. 5, 11, 18, see entry 4.
  4. Ibid., vols. 1, 2, passim.
  5. Ibid., vols. 2, 3, passim.
  6. Ibid., vol. 1, p. 5.
  7. Ibid., vols. 1-3, passim.
  8. Ibid., vol. 2, p. 5.
  9. Ibid., passim.
  10. Ibid., vols. 2, 3, passim.





Moderator; Sextons; Constables;  
Town Agent; Grand Jurors

lowest bidder.<sup>1</sup> No mention is made of this officer for the meetings recorded in 1849 and 1856. This office kept no records.

### XIII. MODERATOR

At the first recorded town meeting held April 30, 1822 a moderator was elected to preside at the meeting.<sup>2</sup> A moderator was elected annually from 1823-81.<sup>3</sup> This office kept no records.

### XIV. SEXTONS

Three sextons were elected for one year terms at the annual town meeting held March 5, 1850.<sup>4</sup> Three sextons were also elected in 1853 and 1865.<sup>5</sup> This office kept no records.

### XV. CONSTABLES

In 1822-56, 1858-59, 1861, and 1867-80 a constable was elected annually.<sup>6</sup> In 1857, 1860, and 1862-66 the office of constable was given to the lowest bidder.<sup>7</sup> The first constable served as tax collector in 1864, 1866, and 1871-80.<sup>8</sup> A second constable was elected in 1854-55, 1876, and 1878-80.<sup>9</sup> This office kept no records.

### XVI. TOWN AGENT

One town agent was elected for a one year term at the annual town meeting held March 9, 1841.<sup>10</sup> A town agent was also elected in 1842-47 and 1850-80.<sup>11</sup> There is no mention made of a town agent for the years 1848-49. This office kept no records.

### XVII. GRAND JURORS

Two grand jurors were elected for one year terms at the town meeting held April 30, 1822.<sup>12</sup> During the years 1823-80 from one to two grand jurors were elected annually.<sup>13</sup> This office kept no records.

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1. Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, vol. 2, p. 143, see entry 4.
  2. Ibid., vol. 1, p. 5.
  3. Ibid., vols. 1-3, passim.
  4. Ibid., vol. 2, p. 82.
  5. Ibid., pp. 105, 199.
  6. Ibid., vols. 1-3, passim.
  7. Ibid., vol. 2, passim.
  8. Ibid., vols. 2, 3, passim.
  9. Ibid.
  10. Ibid., vol. 2, p. 21.
  11. Ibid., vols. 2, 3, passim.
  12. Ibid., vol. 1, p. 5.
  13. Ibid., vols. 1-3, passim.





Fence Viewers; Poundkeepers;  
Sealer of Weights and Measures;  
Surveyor of Wood and  
Shingles

### XVIII. FENCE VIEWERS

Two fence viewers were elected for one year terms at the first recorded town meeting held April 30, 1822.<sup>1</sup> Two fence viewers were also elected the following year.<sup>2</sup> During the years 1824-45, 1847-80,<sup>3</sup> except for 1869 when two were elected,<sup>4</sup> three fence viewers were elected annually. This office kept no records.

### XIX. POUNDKEEPERS

A poundkeeper was elected for a one year term at the town meeting held April 30, 1822 for a term of one year.<sup>5</sup> From one to nine poundkeepers were elected in 1823-50, 1852, 1854-57, 1859-64, and 1866-80 for similar terms.<sup>6</sup> No mention is made of poundkeepers for the years not shown above. This office kept no records.

### XX. SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

A sealer of weights and measures was elected for a term of one year at the annual town meeting held April 30, 1822.<sup>7</sup> This procedure was followed during the years 1823, 1826-47, 1849-50, 1852, 1854-57, 1859-64.<sup>8</sup> This officer also served as sealer of leather during the years 1822-23, 1828, 1834-35, 1858, 1846, 1860, and 1862-64.<sup>9</sup> This office kept no records.

### XXI. SURVEYOR OF WOOD AND SHINGLES

A surveyor of wood and shingles was elected at the meeting held in 1870.<sup>10</sup> One such officer was also elected the following year.<sup>11</sup> A surveyor of wood was elected at the annual meeting held March 5, 1878.<sup>12</sup> No other mention is made of the election of this officer. This office kept no records.

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1. Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, vol. 1, p. 5, see entry 4.
  2. Ibid., p. 11.
  3. Ibid., vols. 1-3, passim.
  4. Ibid., vol. 2, p. 214.
  5. Ibid., vol. 1, p. 5.
  6. Ibid., vols. 1-3, passim.
  7. Ibid., vol. 1, p. 5.
  8. Ibid., vols. 1, 2, passim.
  9. Ibid.
  10. Ibid., vol. 2, p. 220.
  11. Ibid., p. 224.
  12. Ibid., vol. 3, p. 24.



Sealer of Leather; Tythingmen; Haywards

XXII. SEALER OF LEATHER

A sealer of leather was elected for a term of one year at a meeting held March 14, 1826.<sup>1</sup> This procedure was followed during the years 1827, 1829-33, 1836-37, 1839-45, 1848-50, 1853-57, 1859, and 1861.<sup>2</sup> The sealer of weights and measures served as sealer of leather during the years 1822-23, 1828, 1834-35, 1838, 1846, 1860, and 1862-64.<sup>3</sup> This office kept no records.

XXIII. TYTHINGMEN

Two tythingmen were elected for one year terms at the annual town meeting held April 30, 1822.<sup>4</sup> From one to four tythingmen were elected in 1823-40.<sup>5</sup> No other mention was made of this non-record keeping office.

XXIV. HAYWARDS

Six hog constables were elected for one year terms at the town meeting held April 30, 1822.<sup>6</sup> Four haywards were elected for terms of one year at the annual town meeting held March 27, 1823.<sup>7</sup> From three to seven haywards were elected in 1824-40.<sup>8</sup> No other mention is made of this officer. This office kept no records.

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1. Salem Town (Meeting and Miscellaneous) Records, vol. 1, p. 31, see entry 4.
  2. Ibid., vols. 1, 2, passim.
  3. Ibid.
  4. Ibid., vol. 1, p. 5.
  5. Ibid., vols. 1, 2, passim.
  6. Ibid., vol. 1, p. 5.
  7. Ibid., p. 11.
  8. Ibid., vols. 1, 2, passim.





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